

# THE SCROLL

NOVEMBER 1, 2013

O'GORMAN HIGH SCHOOL | SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

VOLUME 50, ISSUE 2

## Community gives gift of life

Kayler Nelson  
Editor-in-Chief

On Oct. 30, O'Gorman High School had an opportunity to contribute to the Sioux Falls community.

Students and staff at O'Gorman had the chance to donate blood at The Blood Mobile last week. "Donating blood isn't a way that you typically think of to give back. This is an opportunity at O'Gorman," said senior Mary Brule.

"The school has been visited by the Blood Mobile for approximately the last 25 years," said Anatomy and Physiology teacher Doug Peterson. "For the last 15 years the Blood Mobile has come twice a year."

Blood donation is often looked over as an essential part of the health of a community, but it is in fact very important.

According to the Armed Services Blood Program, "Blood may be needed at any time, so it must be collected regularly. No one expects to need blood; however, if it is not available when the need arises, the consequences can be fatal." Donated blood is necessary in helping people recover from illness and trauma.

The requirements for donating blood include: must be 17 years of age (16 with parental consent), must weigh at least 110 pounds, and must not have any medical conditions that compromise the health of



FILE PHOTO

Faculty member Kelly Brose donates blood during the biannual blood drive. The Blood Mobile was at O'Gorman Oct. 30 and will return in the spring of 2014.

the blood.

According to Blood Centers of the Pacific, of the 60 percent of Americans who are eligible to donate blood only five percent do so.

Senior Jenna Czarnecki agrees. "If you can give blood, you should. By giving blood you can honestly save a person's life. That is great. I think we should all aspire to do

something great," said Czarnecki.

O'Gorman has had a positive experience with turnout. "The most units we've given in a year was 120," said Peterson. "We surpassed 2,000 units four years ago and they threw a party for us."

Peterson said that overall the experience has been receiving very positive feedback.

Peterson starts the discussion about blood donation in his anatomy classes. There are also supplemental posters hung around the school.

"I think when you're educated you'll realize how important it is that you donate," said Peterson.

The Blood Mobile is expected to be back at O'Gorman in the spring of 2014.

## Lunch program stresses options as new director begins at school

Nate Sotebeer  
Staff Writer

At the beginning of the new school year, changes to the school lunch program were unveiled at O'Gorman High School.

The changes included a return to unlimited condiments as well as some tweaks to the food offered.

Deb Stene, Food Service Site Manager at O'Gorman, said the school is now offering more condiments for the food served in the O'Gorman cafeteria this year.

Also, options at the ala carte stand have been increased, and it is now open after school.

Stene said that a focus has been placed on getting food to students quicker. "We want them to enjoy their time at lunch," said Stene.

Junior Ryan O'Connel has enjoyed the lunch changes.

His favorite change has been the return to unlimited condiments at lunch. "Never underestimate the power ranch dressing can bring to food," said O'Connell.

Other students have taken the changes positively, as there have been more students purchasing lunch, said Stene.

See **LUNCH** page 2

## New venues create buzz throughout city

Ben Rogers  
Tommy Entwistle

Sioux Falls has greatly expanded its sporting opportunities in the form of the Denny Sanford Premier Center and the Sanford Sport Complex.

The Denny Sanford Premier Center expands and replaces the old arena complex. It will consist of four levels: the event level, main concourse, the upper level, and the upper concourse.

"I personally thought the events center should have been downtown," said senior Max Boyum. "But now that it is almost finished it looks really nice where it is and it will be really good for the city."

The new Denny Sanford Pre-

mier Center will have the ability to hold 12,000 people and will encompass 302,000 sq. feet.

With this new facility Sioux Falls will be able to hold more big time events whether it be in sports, concerts and performances.

The event center is scheduled to be completed some time in the fall of next year.

The Sanford Sport Complex, which is located on Benson road off of I-29, includes a field house, which incorporates a full-length football field along with the ability to hold soccer, baseball, softball and athletic training programs.

With 62,000 square feet, the field house proves to be one of the most expansive practice facilities

in the area.

Along with the field house the complex includes the Pentagon, a facility dedicated to basketball, which includes nine high school and college length courts, and the Heritage Court - the centerpiece of the Pentagon.

"The Sanford Sport Complex is one of the coolest venues," said senior Jaden Holzer.

The complex also has junior football fields and a plan for a new tennis center with seven tennis courts, classrooms, locker rooms, and offices.

The Sanford Pentagon had its inaugural game on Oct. 10 when the Minnesota Timberwolves played the Milwaukee Bucks in a preseason matchup.



TOMMY ENTWISTLE / KNIGHT SCROLL

The Denny Sanford Premier Center adds to Sioux Falls' ongoing construction. The new events center is set to open fall of 2014. The Sanford Pentagon opened in October 2013 and will be the home of the Skyforce.

# Dems seek minimum wage increase

Jef Thormodsgard  
Staff Writer

South Dakota high school students could soon find it easier to save for college if a proposed minimum wage increase is put to a vote in 2014.

The South Dakota Democratic Party is petitioning to increase the minimum wage to \$8.50. It is hoped that this increase will help stimulate the economy and help aid those struggling to live from paycheck to paycheck.

The Democratic Party seeks to increase minimum wage for three reasons: to support economic fairness, to reward South Dakota's work ethic and to put more money back into workers' pockets.

"In the last few decades, working class wages have grown stagnate and not kept up with the rise in profits we have seen nationwide, nor the rising cost of living. It is essential that we have a minimum wage that is tied directly to the increasing cost of living," said Ryan Rolfs, Field Director for the South Dakota Democratic Party.

"An increase in minimum wage could help to build South Dakota's economy by increasing the amount of disposable income available to workers in the state," said business teacher Jane Bradfield. "However, It could have an adverse effect if employers were forced to de-

"An increase in minimum wage could help to build South Dakota's economy."

- Jane Bradfield

crease the number of full-time employees that they employ or if employers were forced to substitute part-time jobs in place of full-time jobs, thus leaving workers with less disposable income."

Rolfs does not agree. "Local business owners have stated than an increase in minimum

wage is beneficial because it reduces the turnover rate at their shops allowing for more consistent production and performance," said Rolfs.

The increase in minimum wage will help students' financial planning for college. With looming student loan debt, financial decisions revolve around paying for college.

"I put away 10 percent of each paycheck for college costs so it will be easier to plan for paying for college," said sophomore Ben Merritt.

For students like Merritt, the additional income could ease the pressure of student loan debt.

For those with debt, "the additional income from a raise in the minimum wage can make the difference between eating three meals or one in a day," Rolfs said.

The raise could cause students to skip college altogether. "A high minimum wage could possibly encourage some students to quit school and forego college plans to seek employment," said Bradfield.

U.S. Minimum Wage Through the Years	
1978	\$2.65
1979	\$2.90
1980	\$3.10
1990	\$3.80
1991	\$4.25
1996	\$4.75
1997	\$5.15
2007	\$5.85
2008	\$6.55
2009	\$7.25

## Students welcome changes to school lunch program

**LUNCH:** Continued from page 1

One addition to the menu has been the inclusion of Pizza Ranch pizza three days a week, with boneless chicken wings being offered the other two days of the school week.

O'Connell and Stene both describe this change as a viable option to feed students every day.

While most students seem to enjoy the changes in the cafeteria, Stene says she realizes not everything is perfect.

She says that teachers and students alike have told her that lunch has improved in some area.

"We always welcome feedback from students," said Stene. "Without you telling us, we don't know what we can do better."

## New learning standards utilized in math, English

### Common Core stresses critical thinking

Erin McNerney  
Staff Writer

The Common Core State Standards is a revolutionary way of teaching that has swept through the nation. It focuses on education throughout the United States and challenging American students.

One of the most notable characteristics of Common Core is that it tries to apply learning to students' lives after school.

"Common Core is not a curriculum," said Assistant Principal Joan Mahoney. "It's a set of expectations." Students and teachers are both expected to adapt to the transition and thrive in the new atmosphere.

The program's aim appears to be enhancing analytical thinking. The standard that Common Core hopes to implement is a deeper understanding of the concepts taught.

Instead of pushing memorization, they stress being able to understand the mechanics of the theories and equations taught.

Ken Lindemann of the math department said that Common Core's goal is "to raise the bar." Besides teaching math facts and rhetorical analysis, Common Core also strives to instruct students in skills such as effective communication and logical

thinking.

Common Core focuses mainly on the instruction of math and English. According to Mahoney, the English department received less change than mathematics.

While math classes have transitioned to more applicable, real life problems, English has switched over to reading more nonfiction pieces and writing research papers. Both of these changes are based on the type of work found in the workplace, so lessons prepare students for the future.

At O'Gorman, the Common Core has already been in effect for nearly three years. In this school's case, Common Core was not an overly drastic shift.

According to Mahoney, Common Core is at the right level of challenge for students, but there are classes to help fill in gaps for those who might need it.

Common Core would also replace Dakota Step with its own brand of standardized tests. "Common Core has higher level thinking questions," said Mahoney. "It's also a computer based test."

These tests would hopefully measure students on knowledge that they can apply and haven't simply memorized.

Though Common Core is already in its third year and affects

everyone going to O'Gorman, few students seem to know what it is. While some have never heard of it at all, most other students only have a vague impression of what it actually is.

"Common Core is more specific," said Caitlyn Renner. Likewise, when asked about the new program, fellow senior Kayla Wilke said that it taught basics students need to know. Overall, though, students remain largely in the dark about the program.

Misconceptions about the Common Core program are understandable when so few know what it is.

Common Core is not federally mandated but was voluntarily adopted by the state. The program does not have authority over any subjects other than math and English.

Common Core is officially recognized by the National Catholic Educational Association and the Diocese of Sioux Falls. According to the NCEA, "Common Core State Standards in no way compromise the Catholic identity or educational program of a Catholic School."

The Sioux Falls diocese plans to use Common Core but in a way that will reflect Catholic beliefs and values.

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## Campus Ministry gets personal

Cheyenne Chontos  
Faith Editor

Continuing into the 2013-2014 school year, the O'Gorman campus ministry team is keeping their focus on faith and serving others.

"This year what we're really focusing on is getting authentic, personal encounters with Christ," said campus ministry leader Jonathan Konz. "Some great ways to get that is through chapel and morning prayer."

The campus ministry team has 15 core members this year, staying the same size as previous years. "Everyone in it is super nice," said junior Jackie Marko. "They make it really fun. I think it's a great group of kids. With the smaller group it's easier to share our ideas."

All students are encouraged to get involved with all of the projects and events offered. "Everyone in the student body is part of the campus ministry team," said Konz. "It's a school-wide team."

"Everyone should get involved," said Marko. "You feel like you're making a difference."

Students should prepare for the various projects campus ministry will be offering this year. In October the group placed their focus on Students for Life, promoting pro-life choices and respect for life. They offered events



CHEYENNE CHONTOS / KNIGHT SCROLL

The campus ministry core team meets to discuss new events and different opportunities to grow closer to God. Campus ministry led several pro-life events throughout the month of October.

such as the life chain and praying in front of Planned Parenthood.

"I really like the Students for Life events," said Marko. "I'm in the group and we've got fun things for it like cupcake sales and the life chain."

"The people are great," said senior Alexis Soldatke. "If I had the chance I would definitely do it again. It's a nice leadership opportunity."

Campus ministry will be going downtown to serve dinner at the Banquet on Nov. 7. About 40 students will be needed to serve. They will be going again in the spring semester to serve breakfast on Jan. 22. Students can sign up to help in the campus ministry office.

Several other events will be offered throughout the year. "Students should keep their eyes

open for new projects every day," said Konz.

"Watch the televisions around the school and follow the advertisements for all of the campus ministry activities," said Soldatke.

Konz encourages students to come by his office if they have any ideas for new service projects or if they have any questions concerning their faith.

## Catholics celebrate saints' lives on holy day

Kayler Nelson  
Cheyenne Chontos

Every year the Catholic Church celebrates All Saints' Day on Nov. 1. All Saints' Day is a day the Church remembers and rejoices in all of the saints that have gone to heaven.

The focus of this day is centered on the importance of saints and the Church's ultimate goal of spending eternity with God.

O'Gorman students and staff are getting into the spirit of this day. "It's a special day for me," said senior Max Marko.

"I feel closer to heaven [on All Saints' Day]," said Father Shaun Haggerty. "It fills my heart with joy."

The Catholic Church requires all of its members to attend mass on All Saints' Day. "It's a holy day of obligation so every Catholic in the world is expected to go to Mass that day," said Haggerty.

Going to Mass isn't the only way to get involved with all saints day. Both Marko and Haggerty said they have special prayers for All Saints' Day.

"I pray for the Intercession of the Saints," said Marko. "It's a really powerful prayer."

Haggerty said he enjoys praying the Litany of the Saints. "The saints are singing," said Haggerty. "We should be too."

With All Saints' Day being the day after Halloween, it tends to be overshadowed.

Haggerty said that it is important to remember that Halloween is actually part of All Saints' Day. Halloween was started because people would pass down the stories of how the saints died.

"Eventually the world lost focus on the Saints and the rising of Christ and only cared about the gore," said Haggerty.

Students and staff are encouraged to remember the true meaning of Halloween and All Saints' Day. "It's a feast day," said Marko. "Enjoy it."

Mass will be moved to Friday, Nov. 1 for All Saints Day.

## Students, staff fond of new Pope

Cheyenne Chontos  
Faith Editor

Jorge Mario Bergoglio, better known by his papal name of Francis, was elected Pope of Catholic Church on March 13 earlier this year. So far in his papacy Pope Francis has caused the world to pay a little bit more attention to the Catholic Church and what its true message is.

Pope Francis was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He is known there for his work with the people of the community. Even now as the Pope he is known for continuing his humble lifestyle.

The O'Gorman staff and students have been noticing Pope Francis's unique lifestyle and way of approaching the papacy.

"It sounds like he's really in touch with the world," said junior Sam Lacasse. "He's willing to talk to anyone no matter who they are."

"I feel that he represents getting back to the basics," said

senior Christopher Downey. "I think he's doing a fantastic job."

Theology teacher Michelle Shields also has a positive view on Pope Francis' work.

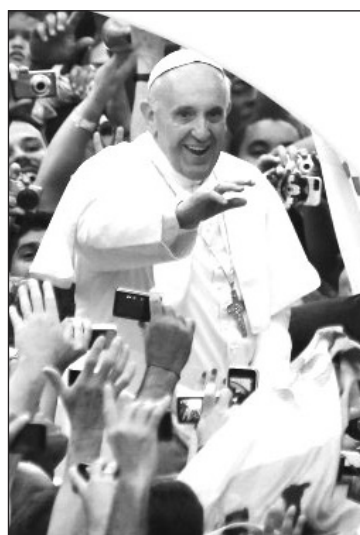
"I love him," said Shields. "I think he's doing a good job and he's a great role model for us."

Pope Francis is also popular with the non-Catholic students of O'Gorman. "He's adorable," said junior Kylie Schmidt. Schmidt and her family are Lutheran, but she said she likes Pope Francis' work and how he is treating people who aren't part of the Catholic Church.

"He seems really inclusive," said Schmidt. "I feel like he loves everyone despite their backgrounds."

Schmidt isn't the only non-Catholic noticing how Pope Francis is acting. Pope Francis and the Catholic Church have recently been making several appearances in the news.

"He makes himself accessible to the public," said Shields. "He's good about reaching a wide array



Pope Francis

of people."

"He's getting the message out that the Church is far more accepting than we usually get credit for," said Lacasse.

With all of the attention the Pope is getting there can be misinterpretations of some of the things he says and does.

"Look for what he really said," Downey said. "The media is usu-

ally going to take a liberal spin on things. We have to remember what his message really is."

While Pope Francis is sticking with the Church's Traditions and teachings, the media doesn't always see it that way.

"They tend to see him as a really groundbreaking pope," said Lacasse. "In reality he's saying the same things that have been said before just in a different way."

But Shields is focusing on the positive side of the coverage. "I think there's a lot of misunderstanding with what he says and how the media presents it," said Shields. "But it's great that the Catholic Church is getting so much attention. For the most part they're showing a good side of Pope Francis and the Church."

So far Pope Francis has been wholeheartedly embracing the media. He has done several interviews and continues to try to shift the focus of the Church on compassion and caring for everyone.

### Upcoming Events

Fall Semester  
Nov. 7 - Dinner at Banquet  
Dec. - Advent Angel Tree

Spring Semester  
Jan. 22 - Serve at Banquet  
Mar. 18 - Empty Bowls  
Apr. 24 - All-School Retreat





CAROLYN FREDERICK / KNIGHT SCROLL  
Homecoming royalty Rebekah Ridder and Max Boyum share a day with the *Knight Scroll*.

# A Royal Day

*Scroll* follows Ridder, Boyum for school day

Justin Kautz  
Activities Co-Editor

*Knight Scroll*: What time do you wake up in the morning?

Max Boyum: Usually around 5:45.

KS: What do you usually eat for breakfast?

MB: Eggs, toast and a bowl of nails.

KS: What time do you get to school?

MB: 6:45 for band (on a good day).

KS: What instrument do you play in band?

MB: I play the trumpet.

KS: What is your favorite class period?

MB: 6th period - English IV with Mrs. Nohrenberg.

KS: What do you do after school?

MB: Best player at football practice from 4:00-6:00, and then supper and homework.

KS: A few weeks removed, do you still feel like the Homecoming King?

MB: Not really, no. Only when teachers like Mr. Keppen give me grief about it.

Carolyn Frederick  
Entertainment Co-Editor

*Knight Scroll*: What time do you wake up in the morning?

Rebekah Ridder: Approximately 5:49 am

KS: What do you usually eat for breakfast?

RR: Honey Bunches of Oats.

KS: What time do you get to school?

RR: Usually 6:45 or 6:50.

KS: What instrument do you play in band?

RR: The trumpet.

KS: What is your favorite class period?

RR: Anatomy with Mr. Peterson. It is interesting and I haven't fainted yet.

KS: What do you do after school?

RR: I get ready for cross country practice and then I run.

KS: A few weeks removed, do you still feel like the Homecoming Queen?

RR: No, just because I wasn't really expecting it. I am an introvert.

# Chicken Goal Tenders hope to fry up Hi-Y competition

Samantha Lenz  
Opinion Editor

The Chicken Goal-Tenders are a rising group in the O'Gorman community.

Recently, the Tenders have won the interschool dodge ball tournament to earn open campus.

"It was a team effort," said junior, John Garcia. "It took all the guys working together to get the result we wanted."

Garcia, Andrew Mohama, Christian Heisler, Sam Maxwell, Cody Bloomer, Matt Billion, Aidan Hart and Austin Schulte make up the primary members of the team.

The team is made up mostly of juniors, but has featured a few guest appearances from senior Zach Peltier.

"I basically just show up when they need me. It's a lot of fun and they're a

great group of guys," said Peltier.

While the team enjoyed its reward for winning the dodge ball tournament, they do not plan to take any time off.

"We won't be resting on our laurels. We have a lot of work to do to get ready for Hi-Y and we are going to take advantage of the off season," said junior Mohama.

Last year, the team went into the playoffs on a hot streak. They had won several games in a row.

"Unfortunately, we fizzled out. We just didn't have enough guys that could play," said junior Trace Venard.

The team hopes to do much better this year. "We're going for the gold," said Venard.

The Goal-Tenders intend to start practicing for the season in upcoming weeks.

# Debate numbers skyrocket; team poised for new season

Kate Brycheeva  
Entertainment Co-Editor

This year, debate starts with a team eight times larger than it was three years ago, going from six to 48 members. Almost everyone who competed last year has returned to challenge themselves once again.

Head coach Bob Stevens has been involved in debate since 1962. He joined O'Gorman in 2011, when he "came to help for a year". One year became three. "I get so much satisfaction from being around kids that I kept doing it," said Stevens.

Debate starts its season on Nov. 2 at the first tournament called "Pumpkinstakes," which will be held in Watertown.

The team is currently getting ready by researching their topics and pre-



KATE BRYCHEEVA / KNIGHT SCROLL  
Coach Bob Stevens and team members talk strategy at a recent debate practice.

paring their arguments. The season ends in March at the state debate tournament.

"We have plenty of new debaters this year and the program has grown tremendously since I started. All of the returning debaters have improved greatly, and I'm excited to see the fantastic

results," said debate captain Audra Garrigan.

The ultimate goal is to get to the NFL Tournament in Kansas City in June and to qualify as many members as possible. "Besides that, the goal is always to get students to learn something they can use in life," said Stevens.

# School prepares for another year of magazine sales

Justin Kautz  
Activities Co-Editor

As the month of November begins, the students and staff at O'Gorman High School are gearing up for yet another year of magazine sales.

"The magazine drive is highly anticipated because it has been so successful in the past," said Ms.

Michelle Shields. "We've raised around \$132,000 each of the past two years."

Starting with the kick-off on Nov. 13 and the first turn-in on Nov. 18, the school will look to go above and beyond the standard set in prior drives.

"If we raise \$125,000 this year we will get the day off school,"

said Shields. "But certainly we should aim much higher than that."

Aside from the coveted day off, the administration also offers a number of smaller incentives for both group and individual sales.

This year, like in past years, the top advisory in the school will be awarded with lunch at

Minerva's. Similarly, the top advisory in each class will earn a meal at Qdoba.

"The incentives for selling are enticing," said senior Carl Gaspar. "They more than make up for the effort it takes to sell the magazines."

Juniors can earn open lunch and seniors can earn open cam-

pus after an individual sale total of \$250. One hundred percent advisory and class participation further earn students rewards like a dress down day or a pizza party.

"I think the biggest thing for the students to know is that, by selling magazines, they are truly helping the O'Gorman community grow," said Shields.



## Exchange students share culture, diversity with school

Tommy Entwistle  
Sports Co-Editor

High school students from all over the world apply by the thousands every year to study in the United States.

O'Gorman has been hosting students for more than 20 years.

"Students have to go through rigorous tests and interviews and be able to prove they have good English speaking and comprehension skills," said Mary Philippe, who is the Regional Director of ACES, or the American Cultural Exchange Service.

This year O'Gorman is hosting nine different foreign exchange students from a number of different countries.

China, Liberia and Slovakia are some of the many countries represented this year.

Although getting a good education is the main focus of the students, they provide much more for the O'Gorman Community.

"International students help to diversify the student population and bring an appreciation for other cultures," said international student

coordinator Donna Carlson. "They are all very bright students who contribute in the classroom and various activities."

Students have to adapt to living in a new place and environment that is thousands miles away from home. The United States has a unique high school experience that they get to experience.

"During class time, small class sizes allow for more student-teacher interaction that I like," said Shichuan Xi, a second year international student from China. "I also enjoy meeting friends and experiencing all of the extra-curricular activities."

International students bring a new level of culture to the halls of O'Gorman while experiencing life through the eyes of its students.

"Once students are finished at O'Gorman they go back home and talk about their experience at O'G," said Carlson. "They become diplomats that help recruit new and talented students that will improve the O'Gorman community."

The O'Gorman students and staff welcome the new friendships and cultures brought by exchange students this year.



KATE BRYCHEEVA / KNIGHT SCROLL

Dr. Kristin Kuchenbecker works with exchange students. Students have to adapt to America while being thousands of miles from their home countries.

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## Girls nab seventh straight crown

Samantha Lenz  
Opinion Editor

The O'Gorman Lady Knights tennis team was able to continue their dynasty with a seventh consecutive straight title this season.

With a representative in every final the team was able to break the 2008 O'Gorman state tournament record of 743 points by scoring 764, rising above runner-up Washington Warriors who scored 478 points.

The state tournament games were played at McKennan Park in a three day tournament.

The team was also able to take first in five of the six singles finals, and three doubles championships.

Junior Morgan Brower went 26-0 coming out on top being the number one ranked player defending her first flight singles title.

Also senior Jenna Czarnecki and Brower repeated their doubles title for the third time in a row. Keeping it in the family, their freshman sisters Sidney Brower and Sam Czarnecki won the flight two doubles.

As a team, the Lady Knights state qualifiers went a combined 151-3 and the doubles teams finished 77-1.

"It feels really good to win. Morgan and I have had so much fun over the years," said Czarnecki. "It was nice to reclaim our title one last time."

Only two seniors, Mary Billion and Czarnecki, will be leaving the championship team this year making the 2014 season look bright.

The players realize they will have targets on their backs as they look forward to vying an eighth straight title in 2014.

The Lady Knights will look to the Brower sisters to lead the team next year. Both will be coming off of individual state championships in their respective flights.

One thing is for sure - coach Don Barnes will have the team ready to defend next year.



TOMMY ENTWISTLE / KNIGHT SCROLL

Max Donohue hits a shot during the 2013 State AA Golf Tournament at Brandon Golf Course held on Oct. 7-8. Donohue finished tied for third, shooting 67-79 over the two day tournament. Next year Donohue will play golf at the University of Arizona.

## Donohue leaves behind legacy

Tommy Entwistle  
Sports Co-Editor

The senior heavy boys golf team won state in record setting fashion on Oct. 8 in Brandon. Among the seniors was Max Donohue, recent University of Arizona commit.

"Jim Anderson is a great coach and the weather is perfect for golf year round," said Donohue. "My goal is to play on varsity as a freshman and improve my game as much as I can."

Donohue set many records at O'Gorman. One of them was winning the individual city championship four times in a row from freshman to senior year.

This season Donohue set a record as the first O'Gorman

golfer to average under par over an entire season. He finished the season placing third at the state tournament for the second straight season.

Throughout his six year career on the varsity roster Donohue was a member of three state team titles and was named all state in each of his last four years.

"It is crazy to think that after six years of this, I won't be carrying an O'Gorman bag next fall," said Donohue.

The success on the links didn't stop in the fall as Donohue achieved many feats in the summer.

He qualified twice for the U.S. Junior Amateur in 2010 and 2013 in Michigan and Truckee, California respectively. The format of

the tournament is two rounds of stroke play with the top 64 scores qualifying for the match play portion.

In both years Donohue failed to qualify for the match play. He felt confident the second time around having dealt with the nerves once before.

"In the U.S. Junior in California, I wanted to make it to the match play so bad. I just missed out but it was still an awesome experience," said Donohue.

Donohue had his redemption on the national stage when he won the American Junior Golf Association's at Quad Cities, Ill. in 2011.

The tournament was 54 holes contested over three days. He shot a four under par 68 in the

first round followed by rounds of 72 and 73 for a three shot victory.

Donohue is also the reigning two time defending South Dakota junior state championship winner.

But throughout all his achievements Donohue has remained humble.

"Max is one of the hardest workers I have ever met," said senior golfer Sam Olson. "But even more amazing is how humble he is."

Whenever Donohue is praised for his accomplishments he is quick to mention his supporting teammates.

"I have had such great teammates and coaches around me. I feel so lucky," said Donohue.

## Golfers take state title; senior Gaher finishes second

Tommy Entwistle  
Sports Co-Editor

This school season might have been one of the best for a golf team in recent history. The Knights set scoring records in both the city championship and the state tournament.

They shot a three round score of 856 in the city tournament and 594 in the state tournament breaking the record by two strokes held by Lincoln from the 2012 tournament.

"We all worked so hard throughout the season, getting up at six in the morning and going to putt and chip," said senior golfer

Chris Gaher.

"Throughout the year we were just so dedicated," said Sam Olson. "We had one goal, and that was to win state."

Going into the season, Lincoln was the odds on favorite to repeat as state champions, but Max Donohue believed in the Knights.

"I felt if we just worked our butts off and stayed focused we could accomplish anything," said Donohue.

The first day of the state tournament was perfect conditions for scoring. The Knights shot a team score of five over par 289 giving them a five shot lead over Lincoln and Bran-

don Valley.

"We left some shots out on the golf course, but overall you can't be mad with a five shot lead," said Gaher.

On a windy second day, the Knights stayed strong and had all six golfers score under 80. They shot 305, besting any score that day by eight strokes.

"To win state my senior year is so special," said Olson. "I have never wanted anything more in my life, and this is just so awesome to win it with all the seniors we had. I will definitely never forget this moment."



## Struggles mount as playoffs approach

Ben Rogers  
Sports Co-Editor

After a 2-1 start to the season, the Knights football team has faltered down the stretch and now finds itself in a hole after losing four straight.

The Knights lost their homecoming game to the Pierre Governors 16-14 on Sept. 20. In a game of missed opportunities and poor offensive production, the Knights would drop their first of the four game skid.

Up next the Knights traveled down to Yankton to face the Bucks. With an unusual offense that consisted of six wide receivers and only three linemen at times, the Knights defense had trouble matching up with Yankton's offense.

The second half was delayed due to storms in the area, but the lightning couldn't spark any energy into the Knights' play and they lost 24-14.

The schedule was supposed to send them to Rapid City to play the Cobblers the following week, but an early winter storm that brought snow in excess of three feet to some of the area kept the Knights at home.

The game kept being pushed back until a final date was settled on - Oct. 24 at O'Hara Stadium in Rapid City.

After the week off from playing a game, the Knights tried to right the ship on a cold and blustery night against the Arrows of Watertown on parent night at McEneaney Field.

In the first half the Knights looked very strong, building up a 20-0 lead. They went into the half up 20-7 after the Arrows scored on a last second touchdown pass to gain some momentum going into the second half.

Shay Bratland carried the team to victory as he rushed the ball 58 times for 293 yards and three scores for the game.

The Knights would give up 22 unanswered points as they couldn't get the ball moving on the offensive side and wound up scoreless in the second half. The final score was 29-20.

Following the Watertown matchup, the Knights fell to city rival Roosevelt 31-7.

First round playoff action was Oct. 31.

## Lady Knights claim soccer title

Ben Rogers  
Sports Co-Editor

The Lady Knights soccer team showed grit this year as they avenged their loss from last year's title game and won the state championship in Aberdeen on Oct. 11.

The road to the state title was not easy, however, as the team had to face the fact that senior leader Maureen Hurley would not be on the field with them after she tore her ACL and MCL in the third game of the year against Harrisburg.

"Even though Maureen was injured she kept everyone focused and ready for the games," said senior Claire Howes.

After a loss in the first game of the year to Roosevelt, the Lady Knights never tasted defeat again going 9-0-4 the rest of the way.

"We all just wanted to win really bad," said junior Michaela Goldammer.

In the state tournament the Lady Knights secured the number two seed giving them a bye in the first round of the playoffs. They played Groton Area in the semifinal game.

The Lady Knights won 3-1 getting a goal from Theresa Pujado and two goals from Alyssa Weidler.

The Lady Knights defense held strong, only allowing Groton Area to three shots on goal.

That victory meant the Lady Knights would have their chance at redemption against Aberdeen Central in a rematch from last



KNIGHT SCROLL

Ashlee Beacom advances the ball against Aberdeen Central on August 31 at McEneaney Field. The game ended in a 2-2 draw.

year's state title game - one in which the Golden Eagles wound up on top.

This was not to be a repeat outcome for the Golden Eagles as the Lady Knights were a much more formidable opponent for the reigning champions.

"We had much better team chemistry this year, both on the field and off," said Howes.

They would use that team chemistry to their advantage never trailing in the playoffs.

The team relied on the leg of Pujado in the championship game as she had two shots on goal resulting in the two key goals for the Lady Knights.

The lady Knights would only need one of those goals, however, as Kristina Wagner played stout defense and recorded seven saves.

The final score was a 2-0 victory over the number one seed, giving the Golden Eagles their only loss of the season.

"Nobody wanted to see Aber-

deen repeat as champs," said Goldammer, "I had tears of joy when we won."

The Lady Knights were led by Pujado who scored three goals, and Wagner who had eight saves.

The Lady Knights had five players achieving all tournament team honors: Claire Howes, Kristina Wagner, Theresa Pujado, Kylie Lamberty and Sidney Car-da.

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# Lady Knights dominate competition

Carolyn Frederick  
Entertainment Co-Editor

The Lady Knights volleyball team is in the midst of a perfect season and have their sights set on a state title.

Out of 16 games, the knights have won 12 in straight sets, including several victories over former state champions.

The Lady Knights recently went on an excursion against former state champions from three different classes; Warner from class B, Sioux Falls Christian from class A, and Roosevelt from class AA.

Against Sioux Falls Christian on Oct. 10, the Lady Knights won in straight sets with a total point margin of 21. Later that week, against Warner High School, the Knights again won in straight sets, this time with a point margin of 17.

Potentially the most pivotal victory up to this point in the season has been over Roosevelt, the defending state

AA Champion. O’Gorman won in four sets, but demonstrated dominance with a second set victory of 25 to 11.

“We all had to play our best,” said junior stand-out Taryn Kloth. “We worked very hard in preparation for that game and it paid off.”

“It’s such a good feeling; we work hard every single day. We earned this it wasn’t just given to us,” said senior Peyton Bjorkman.

The team is eagerly anticipating the state tournament, but they intend to maintain a sharp focus.

Bjorkman explains, “as we go into the state tournament we are going to take everything one step at a time. Game by game. Point by point, until we hopefully find ourselves in the championship game.”

Currently, the Lady Knights are the top seed in the district, and will open up district play at home.



BEN ROGERS / KNIGHT SCROLL

Dalee Stene backsets for Jess Mieras during the volleyball match against top-ranked class A Sioux Falls Christian. The Lady Knights won 25-15, 25-17, 25-22.



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| Monday, <b>November 11</b> | Monday, <b>January 20</b> |



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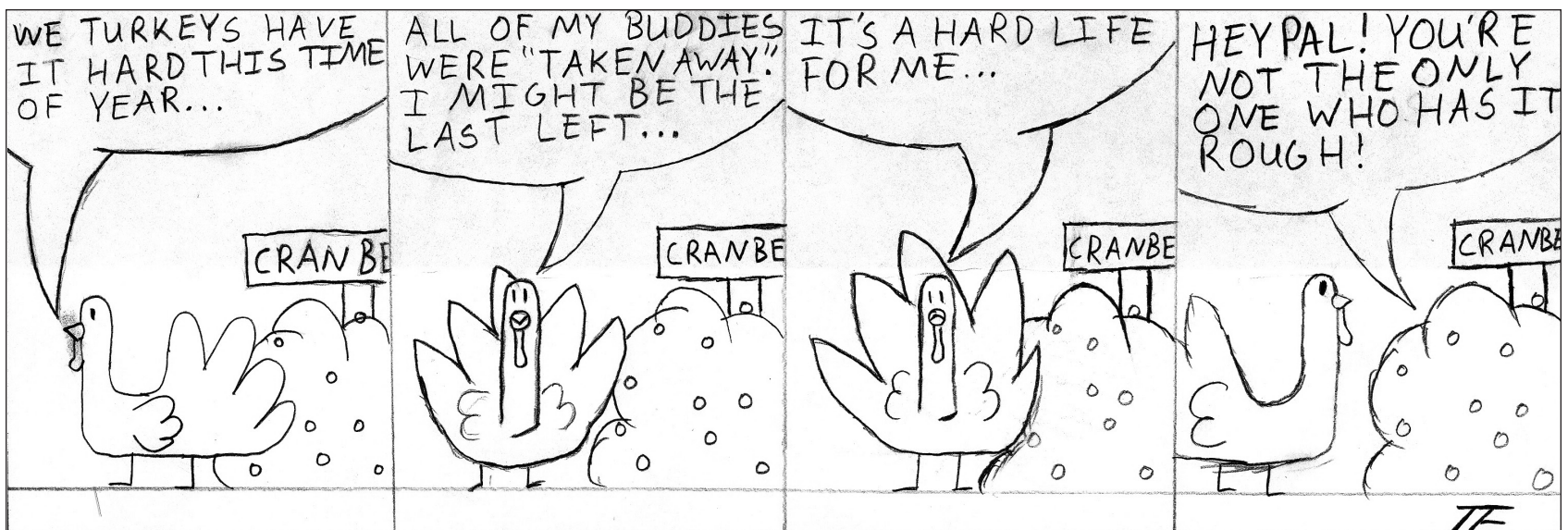
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## Students lack political awareness, interest

I'm afraid that, upon reading the headline, many readers will choose to ignore this story. Unfortunately, that is exactly the problem. Our generation is dangerously politically unaware.

I want to start off with a disclaimer. I am not claiming any sort of political mastery – I may well be a part of the very problem I am highlighting. That being said, I do recognize a problem and feel that it is worthy of attention.

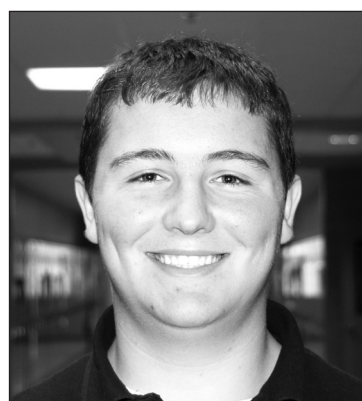
The way I see it, political unawareness comes in two forms: blind loyalty and complete disregard.

The first category holds people who are fully committed to a

party and allow that to determine their stance on moral or social justice issues, instead of independently determining their beliefs and finding a party that supports them.

Moreover, it is crucial to understand that the political system in America does not mandate voting in exact accordance with an affiliated political party. You can and should pick and choose where you, personally, agree and disagree with current issues.

Additionally, it is necessary to understand the entirety of the issue before forming an opinion. Far too often, the important parts of a topic are ignored because the title is something that incites an



Sam Breske

emotional response.

I would be remised if I did not insist that our parents are not the best basis of political ideals. They formed their opinions and affiliations in different times, with dif-

ferent pressing issues. Our country is constantly changing and working to improve, so we, as its citizens, must as well.

Let us not forget that our beloved conservatives recently cost the country \$24 billion and 3% of the quarterly GDP, over a law that had already been passed.

The second category is home to those who have a distaste for politics, whether they find them boring or angering or anything in between.

This category is potentially more dangerous than the former. A complete disinterest in politics and subsequent lack of any knowledge of the current political sphere opens us up to ma-

nipulation. Although it is an extreme example, Hitler was only able to rise to power by playing off of misconceptions of the German people.

Still, I know that some people will simply never care about politics, which is fine. To those people I simply ask: do not vote. Uninformed voters lead to undeserving elected officials and unjust laws.

America has a long way to go to get back on track, and most of us will not be able to do anything at a macro level to help that. All we can do, and all that can be expected of us, is to work to identify our personal, educated stance on the issues, and act accordingly.

## Photo Survey

If you were an animated character who would you be?



"Stitch from Lilo and Stich because he is fluffy and so am I."  
- Matt Cartwright



"Clifford because I am a big red dog."  
- Carly Moran



"Simba from the Lion King, because I am the king of the school"  
- Karl Shlanta



"A minion from Despicable Me because we speak the same language."  
- Paige Welch

## Top ~~Ten~~ 20 Favorite Shows

1. Breaking Bad
2. The Walking Dead
3. Survivor
4. Pretty Little Liars
5. Scandal
6. Dance Moms
7. The Voice
8. Abby's Ultimate Dance Competition
9. Modern Family
10. Suits
11. Psych
12. Criminal Minds
13. NCIS
14. Glee
15. Keeping Up With the Kardashians
16. Family Guy
17. The Bachelor
18. Top Chef
19. American Horror Story
20. Graceland



# O'Gorman drama season opens with *Murder*

Kayler Nelson  
Editor-in-Chief

This fall, O'Gorman's theatrical community produced the show *Murder's in the Heir*.

The murder mystery of an old billionaire and his will took stage on Oct. 12 and had shows on Oct. 14 and Oct. 15.

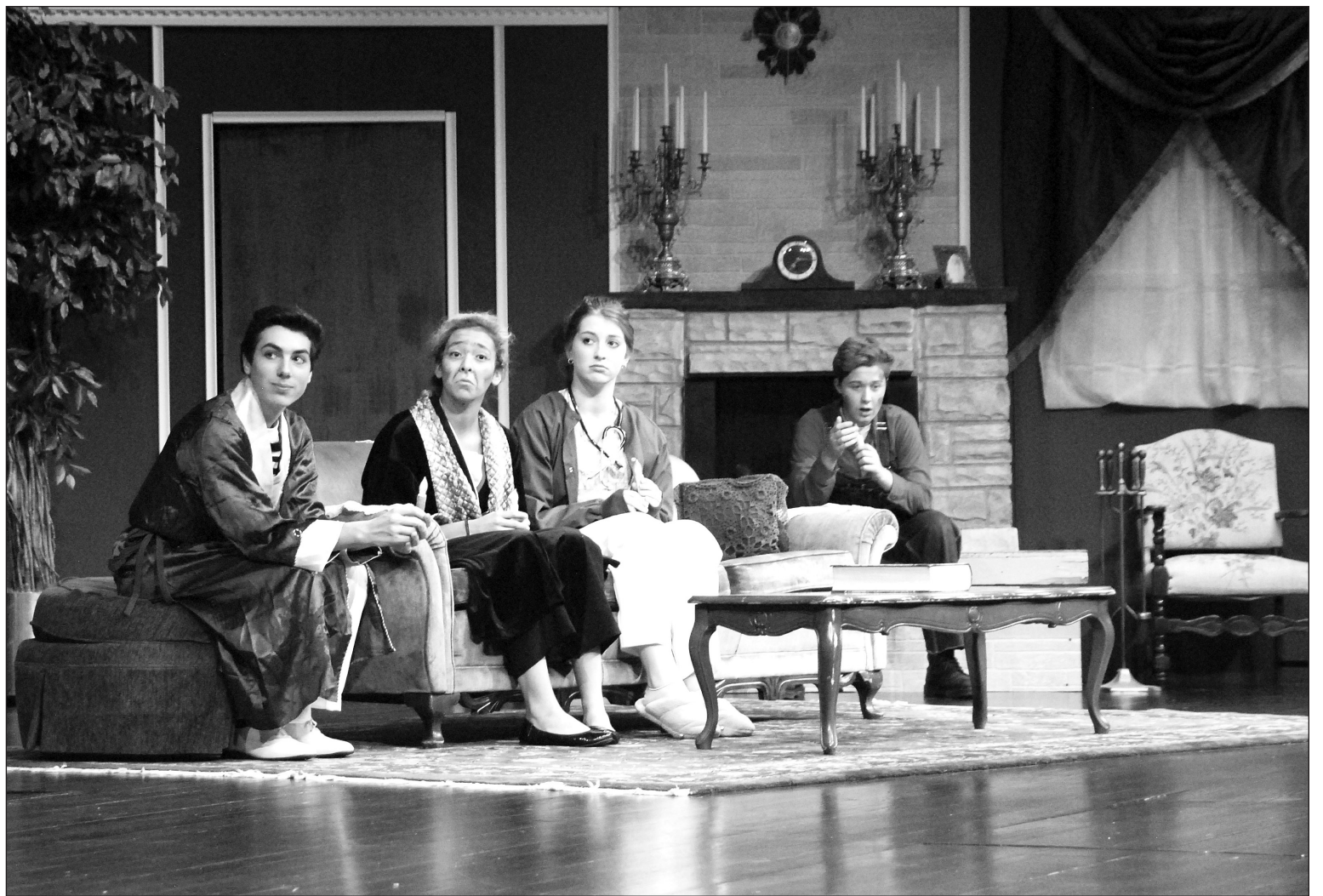
Although the attendance of the fall play generally depends on other school activities, "It would be ideal if we could average 300-350 attendants per show," said *Murder's in the Heir* director Scott Nelson.

This year's fall play sets itself apart by having the audience get involved. According to Nelson, what defined this murder mystery from other murder mysteries is that the audience actually had the opportunity to vote for who they thought the murderer was.

The votes were counted during intermission and whoever the majority of the audience believed to have done it became the murderer. This required all actors to memorize the end of the script.

The cast and crew of *Murder's in the Heir* practiced five days a week. A majority of these practices took place after school. However, there were occasional evenings included in the practice schedule.

Although the play was unique in and of itself, Nelson views the cast as one of a kind. "This cast hasn't caused me any headache or



KNIGHT SCROLL

Cody Bloomer (left), Kelly Maxwell, Megan Kueter and Matt Billion look on as they perform in the show *Murder's in the Heir*. The show ran from Oct. 12-15. Audience members were able to choose how the play ended.

heartache," said Nelson. "I have been spoiled, and that's the honest truth."

Bigger parts for this play went to junior Ryan O'Connell,

who played Simon Starkweather; junior Luke Miller, who played detective Mike Davis; and senior Clara Bentz, who played Lois Van Zandt.

The characters the audience who chose to be the murders varied every night. On Oct. 12 the murder was Rufus Jones. The audience chose Jordan Starkweath-

er on Oct. 14 and Bensonhurst on Oct. 15. Fiona Starkweather was chosen on the show's parent night.

## Narnia takes center stage as latest children's show

Kate Brycheeva  
Entertainment Co-Editor

O'Gorman is getting ready to open its doors to the magical world of Narnia, as the drama department will perform *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* on Nov. 22-24.

Besides a great story, the show promises beautiful costumes and impressive decorations.

The children's play has always been very traditional at O'Gorman. But this year is special. Scott Nelson, the show's director, started with *The Chronicles of Narnia* 20 years ago.

O'Gorman drama is back to the start, but with so many changes. The new Performing Arts Center brings not only many new possibilities, but also challenges of figuring out how to best use this space.

The cast is planned to be 36 members, while the audience

number is expected to be larger than ever, with the story that brings together people of all ages.

One of the new traditions that started a couple of years ago is making donations. Items collected before the shows are donated to local organizations.

"It is our way of giving back to others, and how simple is that," said Nelson.

Nelson's favorite part of the show is "seeing the reactions of children who come to see our show. [It's great] to be out in the foyer, see how excited they are about it."

The show time is 7 p.m. on Friday; 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday; and 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$5 for students and \$4 for children.

Doors open 30 minutes before the show, and donations are accepted at the door.

## Mayer to play in Sioux City; students excited for show

Sam Breske  
Activities Co-Editor

John Mayer will be headlining a concert in Sioux City later this month, and many O'Gorman students will be in attendance.

The concert is scheduled for Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. at the Tyson Events Center in Sioux City, as a part of the center's 10th anniversary celebration. The center can hold 10,000 people. The opening act is *American Idol* winner, Phillip Phillips.

Mayer began his tour last month in Europe, where he played eight shows across the northern part of the continent, including the United Kingdom.

The American portion of the tour will begin in Moline, Illinois on Nov. 19, and Sioux City will be the second stop.

After Sioux City, Mayer will

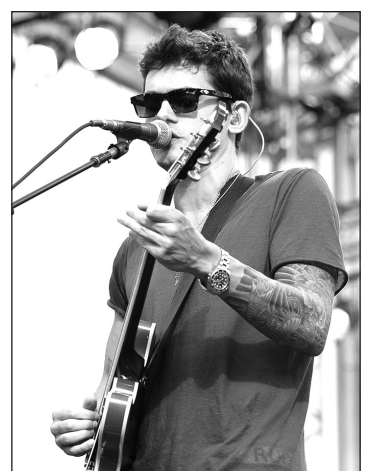
travel to Lincoln, Neb. and Minneapolis, Minn. before leaving the Midwest.

Several O'Gorman students will be attending the show, including senior Alex Linneman.

"It worked out really well that the concert fell on my birthday," said Linneman. "I am excited to see what songs he plays."

Birthday or not, a lot of students are treating Mayer's concert as cause for celebration. Specifically, Mayer seems to have captivated a large part of the female demographic at O'Gorman. "I am absolutely in love with John Mayer," said an excited senior Meghan Kunkel.

This tour marks Mayer's return to live performing after a long recovery from granuloma, a disease that threatened his music career. Granuloma is an inflamed nodule or tumor-like



John Mayer

mass of tissue.

Mayer's new album, *Paradise Valley*, will be featured in the concert.

The proceeds from the tour are intended to be used to increase awareness of post-traumatic stress disorder.





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